SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA FAMILY DIVISION DOMESTIC RELATIONS BRANCH

KAMECIA TAYLOR : Case No. 2022 DRB 1562

Plaintiff

v.

CHATIA TAYLOR (deceased) et al., : Judge Julie H. Becker

Defendants

:

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S MOTION TO SERVE BY POSTING

Pending before the Court is plaintiff Kamecia Taylor's motion to serve by publication or posting, filed September 9, 2022. In her motion, Ms. Taylor seeks to serve one of the defendants, the unknown father of Malayah Taylor (DOB: 5/22/2019), by posting.

Before an order allowing service by publication or posting may be issued, Ms. Taylor must demonstrate that she made a diligent but futile effort to locate the unknown father, and must furnish the Court with the following:

(1) the time and place at which the parties last resided together; (2) the last time the parties were in contact with each other; (3) the name and address of the last employer of the Defendant either during the time the parties resided together or at a later time if known to the Plaintiff; (4) the names and addresses of those relatives known to be close to the Defendant; and (5) any other information which could furnish a fruitful basis for further inquiry by one truly bent on learning the present whereabouts of the Defendant. From such basic information, the Plaintiff should then detail for the Court the particular efforts which have been made in the effort to ascertain the Defendant's present address.

Bearstop v. Bearstop, 377 A.2d 405, 408 (D.C. 1977).

In this case, the Court finds that Ms. Taylor has performed a diligent search for the unknown father. Ms. Taylor represents that she does not know the unknown father's current home address or telephone number, does not know when she last had contact with him, and never lived

with him. Ms. Taylor also represents she does not know the defendant's last known address, telephone number, or employer, and was unable to find information from people who know the defendant, jails or prisons, or the military.

Based on the foregoing, the Court finds that Ms. Taylor has made diligent efforts to locate defendant unknown father. In addition, the Court finds that the Ms. Taylor has demonstrated that publication pursuant to SCR-Dom. Rel. Rule 4(f) would impose a substantial financial hardship. *See* D.C. Code § 13-340(a). Therefore, the Court authorizes service by posting of the below notice for a period of twenty-one days in the Clerk's office of the Family Division.

Accordingly, based on the record of this case, it is this 20th day of October, 2022, hereby

ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion to Serve by Publication or Posting is GRANTED. It
is further

ORDERED that the attached notice shall be posted in the Clerk's Office of the Family Division of the Superior Court of the District of Columbia and on its website for a period of twenty-one calendar days in order to serve the defendant, the unknown father of Malayah Taylor (DOB: 5/22/2019), and notify him of the present action in which he is a party. It is further

ORDERED that prior to the next hearing in this matter, plaintiff Kamecia Taylor shall file with the Court defendant Chatia Renee Taylor's death certificate or other proof of her death. Ms. Taylor shall file this documentation by emailing it to FamilyCourtCIC@dcsc.gov or by filing it in person at the Family Court Central Intake Center located at 500 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001. It is further

ORDERED that parties shall appear **in person** for a status hearing on January 9, 2023 at 9:30am in Courtroom 101 (500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001). **This will be your**

only notice. You will not receive a reminder by email. Failure to appear may result in issuance of a default, a dismissal, or sanctions.

Julie H. Becker Associate Judge

Copies to:

Kamecia Taylor kameciataylor@gmail.com *Plaintiff*

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NOTICE OF THIRD-PARTY CUSTODY PROCEEDING

UNKNOWN FATHER OF MALAYAH TAYLOR (DOB: 5/22/2019), YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT a complaint for custody of Malayah Taylor (DOB: 5/22/2019) has been filed in the above-captioned matter.

IF YOU WANT TO CHALLENGE THIS PETITION, you must file a written objection with the Court within fourteen (14) days of receiving notice and prior to the hearing scheduled for January 9, 2023 at 9:30am in Courtroom 101 (500 Indiana Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20001). If you do not file a written objection within fourteen (14) days of receiving notice, the Court will treat the complaint as unopposed by you. Your objection should be directed to the Domestic Relations Branch Clerk, Family Court, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, 500 Indiana Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CHALLENGE THIS PETITION, you may consent to the relief sought prior to the hearing scheduled for January 9, 2023 at 9:30am. For more information on how to do so, please contact the Self-Help Center, phone number (202) 879-0096 and located at JM-570, Superior Court of the District of Columbia, 500 Indiana Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20001.

FAILURE TO RESPOND IN THIS MATTER MAY RESULT IN THE ENTRANCE OF A PERMANENT CUSTODY ORDER WITHOUT YOUR PARTICIPATION.